AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An interlabial pad comprising:

an absorbent body for absorbing liquid, the absorbent body including a fiber aggregate of fibers; and

a cover body for covering the absorbent body in an enclosing manner, [[;]]

wherein the interlabial pad has an elongated shape and a substantially elliptical cross section,

wherein the fibers are oriented randomly, [[;]]

wherein the fiber aggregate includes:

a first fiber aggregate located on an upper side of the interlabial pad in a vertical direction when the interlabial pad is worn by a wearer, having an average fiber length 25 mm to 50 mm,

a second fiber aggregate located on a lower side of the interlabial pad, having an average fiber length 3 mm to 6 mm,

wherein the absorbent body has a flexural rigidity as Gurley bending resistance in a range from 25 mg to 130 mg; and

wherein a ratio flexural rigidities between the longitudinal or the lateral direction and the thickness direction of the absorbent body is in a range from 0.5 to 2.0.

2. (Original) The interlabial pad according to Claim 1;

wherein flexural rigidities in two mutually orthogonal directions of the fiber aggregate are substantially the same.

3. (Currently amended) The interlabial pad according to Claim 1;

wherein the absorbent body is formed by layering the fiber aggregate and another fiber aggregate that differ from each other in tensile elongation; and

wherein ~~one of~~ the first fiber ~~aggregates~~ aggregate ~~which is positioned at a vestibular floor side when the interlabial pad is fitted between labia~~ has a higher tensile elongation than that of the [[other]] second fiber aggregate ~~which is positioned at a side opposite to the vestibular floor side~~.

4. (Currently amended) The interlabial pad according to Claim 3,

wherein the first fiber aggregate positioned at the vestibular floor side is formed by layering solitary or mixed fibers selected from the group consisting of rayon, acetate, natural cotton, super absorbent polymer fibers and synthetic fibers, and has a tensile elongation of 60% or more than that in a dry state, even in a wet state in which liquids are absorbed.

5. (Currently amended) The interlabial pad according to Claim 3;

wherein the fiber aggregate ~~positioned at the side opposite to the vestibular floor side comprises another~~ further includes a third fiber aggregate located on a lower side ~~of different tensile elongation; and wherein one~~ of the second fiber aggregate, and having ~~aggregates which is positioned at the vestibular floor side has~~ a [[lower]] higher tensile elongation than ~~that of~~ the tensile elongation of the second fiber aggregate ~~other fiber aggregate which is positioned at the side opposite to the vestibular floor side~~.

6. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 1;

wherein the interlabial pad is a substantially planar interlabial pad; and

wherein the cover body includes a liquid permeable surface side sheet and a liquid impermeable back face side sheet;

wherein the absorbent body is formed by layering the fiber aggregate and another fiber aggregate that differ from each other in tensile elongation; and

wherein one of the fiber aggregates which is positioned at the vestibular floor side has a higher tensile elongation than that of the other fiber aggregate which is positioned at the side opposite to the vestibular floor side.

7. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 6;

wherein a proportion of the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation and a proportion of the fiber aggregate having the lower tensile elongation are substantially the same in the thickness direction of the absorbent body.

8. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 6;

wherein a proportion of the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is larger than a proportion of the fiber aggregate having the lower tensile elongation in the thickness direction of the absorbent body at a vicinity of a longitudinal direction central line.

9. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 8,

wherein the absorbent body comprises the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation at outer peripheral parts and being disposed over the entire thickness direction.

10. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 6,

wherein the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is formed by layering solitary or mixed fibers selected from the group consisting of rayon, acetate, natural cotton, super absorbent polymer fibers and synthetic fibers; and

wherein the tensile elongation of the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is maintained at 60% or more, compared to that in the dry state even in the wet state in which liquids are absorbed.

11. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 6;

wherein a dividing region which divides the absorbent body is provided at least substantially along the longitudinal direction central line at a rear of the absorbent body.

12. (Currently amended) The interlabial pad according to Claim 2;

wherein the absorbent body is formed by layering the first fiber aggregate and ~~another~~ the second fiber aggregate that differ from each other in tensile elongation; and

wherein ~~one of~~ the first fiber aggregate ~~aggregates which is positioned at a vestibular floor side when the interlabial pad is fitted between labia~~ has a higher tensile elongation than that of the [[other]] second fiber aggregate ~~which is positioned at a side opposite to the vestibular floor side~~.

13. (Currently amended) The interlabial pad according to Claim 4;

wherein the fiber aggregate ~~positioned at the side opposite to the vestibular floor side~~ further includes ~~another~~ a third fiber aggregate located on a lower side of the second fiber aggregate, and having ~~of different tensile elongation; and wherein one of the fiber aggregates which is positioned at the vestibular floor side has~~ a higher tensile elongation than ~~that of~~ the [[other]] tensile elongation of the second fiber aggregate ~~which is positioned at the side opposite to the vestibular floor side~~.

14. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 2;

wherein the interlabial pad is a substantially planar interlabial pad;

wherein the cover body that covers the absorbent body includes a liquid permeable surface side sheet and a liquid impermeable back face side sheet; and

wherein the absorbent body is formed by layering the fiber aggregate and another fiber aggregate that differ from each other in tensile elongation; and one of the fiber aggregates which is positioned at the vestibular floor side has a higher tensile elongation than that of the other fiber aggregate which is positioned at the side opposite to the vestibular floor side.

15. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 7, wherein the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is formed by layering s solitary or mixed fibers selected from the group consisting of rayon, acetate, natural cotton, super absorbent polymer fibers and synthetic fibers; and

wherein the tensile elongation of the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is maintained at 60% or more than that in the dry state even in the wet state in which liquids are absorbed.

16. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 8,

wherein the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is formed by layering solitary solitary or mixed fibers selected from the group consisting of rayon, acetate, natural cotton, super absorbent polymer fibers and synthetic fibers; and

wherein the tensile elongation of the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is maintained at 60% or more than that in the dry state even in the wet state in which liquids are absorbed.

17. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 9,

wherein the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is formed by layering solitary or mixed fibers selected from the group consisting of rayon, acetate, natural cotton, super absorbent polymer fibers and synthetic fibers; and

wherein the tensile elongation of the fiber aggregate having the higher tensile elongation is maintained at 60% or more than that in the dry state even in the wet state in which liquids are absorbed.

18. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 7;

wherein a dividing region which divides the absorbent body is provided at least substantially along the longitudinal direction central line at a rear of the absorbent body.

19. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 8;

wherein a dividing region which divides the absorbent body is provided at least substantially along the longitudinal direction central line at a rear of the absorbent body.

20. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 9;

wherein a dividing region which divides the absorbent body is provided at least substantially along the longitudinal direction central line at a rear of the absorbent body.

21. (Withdrawn) The interlabial pad according to Claim 10;

wherein a dividing region which divides the absorbent body is provided at least substantially along the longitudinal direction central line at a rear of the absorbent body.

22. (New) The interlabial pad according to claim 1,

wherein the first fiber aggregate is located in an upper region which has a vertical height which is within 7 mm from an upper surface of the interlabial pad when the interlabial pad is worn by the wearer, and

the second fiber aggregate is located in a lower region which has a vertical height which is within 7 mm from a bottom of the upper region.

23. (New) The interlabial pad according to claim 5,

wherein an average fiber length in the third fiber aggregate is 25 mm to 50 mm.